

For more information contact:

Kirk Weber at 201-460-8384
or via e-mail at Kirk.Weber@njmeadowlands.gov

Fee:

Program fee is \$5.00 per child. There is no cost to leaders or chaperones. At least one adult for every 6 scouts is required. Reservations must be made at least 2 weeks in advance.

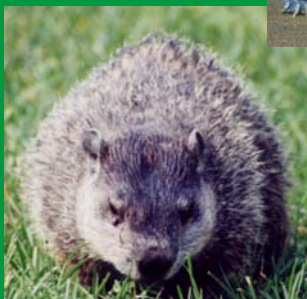
To make a reservation call:

201-460-8300

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2006/2007

**JUNIOR
GIRL SCOUT
PROGRAMS**



**A NEW JERSEY
MEADOWLANDS COMMISSION
FACILITY**

**OPERATED BY
RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

Two DeKorte Park Plaza
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
Phone: 201-460-8300



JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT PROGRAMS

Title: Water Ways

Duration: One 90-minute session

Addresses requirements for: *Water Wonders* badge

Overview: This program begins with a survey of ways we use

water. Participants will perform simple water chemistry tests and sample plankton to form a general impression of the health of the habitat they're visiting.

Activities:

- Use microscopes to view and identify plankton.
- Learn what a watershed is and use a map to determine your watershed "address".
- Investigate the water cycle and learn how water moves from place to place.



Title: Animals of the Marsh

Duration:
Two 90-minute session

Addresses requirements for: *Plants and Animals*, *Wildlife* and *Water Wonders* badges

Overview: This program will introduce Junior Girl Scouts to

the methods used to classify the animals living in the salt marsh, with a focus on fish and birds.

Session One

Activities:

- Learn about the characteristics of birds and fish.
- Use pictures to study salt marsh animals and categorize them according to their appearance.

Session Two

Activities:

- Go bird watching. Use binoculars to observe birds closely and practice sketching them.
- Observe live salt marsh animals and learn about their unique survival adaptations.

Title: Pests and Pals

Duration: One 90-minute session

Addresses requirements for: *Plants and Animals* badge

Overview: This program explains the concept of biodiversity and its importance in an ecosystem. In addition to certain species' effects on humans, participants will explore the role they play within their habitats. Participants will leave with an understanding of why some organisms are defined as pests.

Activities:

- Learn about an animal's adaptations that lead to its reputation as a pest.
- Explore the physical and physiological distinctions between poisonous and venomous organisms.
- Learn about the plants and animals of wetlands considered to be pests.
- Learn how pests can be controlled.

Title: "Plantology"

Duration: One 90-minute session

Addresses requirements for: Juniors *Wildlife* and *Earth Connections* badges

Overview: Participants will investigate the flora of the salt marsh and surrounding habitats and look closely at their identifying features and adaptations.

Activities:

- Make a plant press.
- Collect and press plant specimens and use them to start a herbarium.
- Go on a nature hike and learn to identify plants using the following characteristics: branching pattern, leaf shape and venation, trees silhouettes, and aspects of bark including color and texture.
- Create a dichotomous key specific to the salt marsh.



Title: Avian Adaptations

Duration:
One 90-minute session

Addresses requirements for: *Wildlife* badge



Overview:

Participants will study a variety of bird beak designs and investigate how each one helps a particular bird acquire food. This investigation will involve a visual study of taxidermies as well as trial and error experiments.

Activities:

- Use tools resembling bird beaks at "feeding stations" to learn about different beak designs.
- View various feather types under magnification.
- Create a field guide for feathers and other bird adaptations. Identify various pictures of feathers and label their parts.

Title: Salt Marsh Ecology (available only April-November)

Duration: One 90-minute session

Addresses requirements for: *Water Wonders* badge

Overview: Within vast areas where rivers meet oceans, called estuaries, we find smaller pockets of life, habitats known as salt marshes. Teeming with life and crucial to the health of the water we drink, the salt marsh is one of our most critical and threatened habitats. Participants will learn about the unique properties of salt water through experimentation and discover how the animals living in it are adapted to it.

Activities:

- Conduct experiments to learn how salt alters the properties of water.
- Sample the living organisms in the salt marsh using dip nets and use your findings to piece together a food chain.